

THE NATIONAL BUREAU OF MEDICINES AND FOODS.

The joint committee of the American Medical and the American Pharmaceutical Associations, presents, in the following statement, the plan for establishing a National Bureau of Medicines and Foods which it has been appointed to consider. In order to aid the committee in coming to a determination as to the proper recommendations to be made to the associations, physicians, pharmacists and manufacturers are requested to express to the committee their opinions regarding the advisability of establishing this proposed bureau, and their reasons for approving or disapproving its establishment. The plan herewith published should be carefully read and considered before opinion or criticism is expressed. The subject is of the greatest importance and the scope and details as set forth in the plan under consideration should be fully appreciated. Kindly forward any criticisms, whether favorable or unfavorable, to either the chairman, H. H. Rusby, M. D., 115 West 68th street, New York City; or the secretary, Philip Mills Jones, M. D., 31 Post street, San Francisco.

NATIONAL BUREAU OF MEDICINES AND FOODS.

GENERAL STATEMENT OF PLAN.

It has seemed desirable to enumerate a few of the more important evils connected with the lack of standard in pharmaceutical preparations, adulteration of drugs, chemicals and food-stuffs, and the exceedingly complex condition of the many remedial preparations constantly offered to the medical profession.

The Pharmacopeia, in this country, is not a compulsory document. As a result, manufacturers are not obliged to follow it in the preparation of pharmaceuticals, and as a matter of fact, there is much variation in the strength of their products. Fluid and solid extracts, etc., and many pharmacopeial preparations, are made differently by different manufacturers, and often are not, as they should be, identical within reasonable limitations. The strength of tinctures made by different manufacturers has been found to vary as much as 70 or 80 per cent. This variation is such that prescriptions filled with one set of products will have a certain appearance and therapeutic effect, but the same prescriptions when compounded from products of a different manufacturer, will have a different appearance and therapeutic effect.

Chemicals are often adulterated or impure; even reagents marked "C. P." can, in most cases, not be relied upon. Lists of chemicals bought in open market and analyzed, with the adulterants and impurities commonly found, have been published from time to time and are accessible. The facts are so generally known that it is hardly necessary to enumerate them here. A few illustrations will suffice: Tincture of aconite, practically inert; aristol, containing 65 per cent of free alkali; phenacetin, containing 90 per cent of acetanilid; boric acid, adulterated with three times its weight of borax; "C. P." zinc, containing iron and arsenic in appreciable quantities; hyoscyamine, as pure atropine, etc.

Adulterations of food-stuffs, the use of harmful coloring matters and preservatives, etc., are matters of common repute and have been noticed so many

times in connection with proposed and urged national legislation, that only summary comment is needed. Cotton seed oil is commonly marked olive oil; coffee may be largely chickory; mustard is often not more than 10 or 15 per cent mustard, the adulterant being corn meal; black pepper is usually adulterated with from 50 to 80 per cent of foreign material; jellies and jams are seldom what they purport to be; salts of zinc, salicylic acid and the salicylates, borax and boric acid, and other preservatives are very generally employed and not infrequently they are used in harmful quantities. So common is adulteration of food-stuffs that there exists almost complete distrust in the public mind as to the purity or freedom from harmful preservatives, of most common food-stuffs. In the domain of prepared foods there is at the present time no means of determining their composition or suitability for the diets for which the makers recommend and advertise them. It has been found that many foods recommended for diabetics contained starch or sugar in considerable quantities, when the makers claimed absence of these ingredients for their products.

Many of the large number of special preparations that are put upon the market and strongly urged upon the medical profession, probably are good and have certain well defined uses. But the methods employed by the manufacturers are such as to induce a certain lack of confidence. The physician, as a rule, is not informed of the actual composition of the mixtures he is requested to employ, or if the composition is given it is vague, or at best there is only the statement of the interested party—the manufacturer—to rely upon. If a physician uses many of these preparations in good faith, and in good faith comments favorably upon them, in the medical press—supposing that his comment has not been "blue penciled" by the editor of the journal—he is in great danger of seeing his statement taken, and even garbled by the manufacturer, and extensively used for advertising purposes. This if his comment is favorable; if it be unfavorable the manufacturer ignores it entirely.

The prevention of adulteration in drugs, chemicals and food-stuffs, and the maintenance of standard in pharmaceutical preparations, should be a government function. For fourteen years effort has been made to secure proper national legislation for this purpose, but without result. The existence of the evils pointed out is recognized by all, and in view of the failure to secure the requisite national legislation, correction, or attempted correction, of these evils has been suggested through the medium of a proper commission or bureau, established by individual effort. Such a bureau could be formed by the association of professional men on the one hand and of those manufacturers who desire to put out only pure, standard and honest goods on the other hand. It is believed that such an association would be to the very great advantage of the public, and probably to those manufacturers who associated with such a bureau in its proposed work.

At first glance, and until the proposed plan is carefully studied, it would seem that such an undertaking would be impracticable. When carefully studied in detail, however, the plan, though of tremendous magnitude, appears to be so far practicable as to demand further study.

The following (*infra*) statement of the plan which has been formulated for the purpose of meeting present conditions, of adulteration, lack of standard in pharmaceuticals, confusion in identity of preparations and brands of medicinal mixtures, etc., is herewith presented for your very careful consideration. This statement has been made as short as possible, though

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Dr. Cheney said in these cases everything depends on attention to details. When the number of cases coming under Dr. Wilbur's care is considered, the amount of work done by him is little short of marvelous. Then, facilities for proper treatment in small places are much less than in large cities, and the physician there has to work at disadvantage. He thought a practice to be avoided was in doing too much in the early stages of typhoid; there was too much therapy.

Dr. Brown inquired if in the reported cases collapse was preceded by high fever.

Dr. Evans directed attention to the necessity of careful investigation of milk and water supply. He said from personal investigation he thought San Francisco was in danger of typhoid epidemic through the milk supply. He said the medical profession owes a duty to the community in this important matter.

Dr. Ryfkogle referred to examinations he had conducted in his laboratory of specimens of water and milk sent from Palo Alto dairies. He had found typhoid bacilli in them.

Dr. Carpenter inquired why operations had not been done in cases of perforation.

Dr. Wilbur, in closing the discussion, said he agreed with Dr. Kerr as to the importance of microtism of the pulse as a symptom. He lost no cases through collapse, which frequently followed high temperatures. He thought operation at the height of the disease extremely dangerous; the whole system was trying to repel disease, and the administration of an anesthetic would be attended with grave danger. Dr. Wilbur announced that he was preparing a paper, to follow his report, to more fully cover the treatment of typhoid.

Harold A. Johnson, M. D., made a report of a case requiring the Talma operation:

Four years ago patient's feet became swollen at night, the swelling disappearing during the day; one year ago operated upon at local hospital for tumor, but no tumor was found; on September 9 discharged four quarts blood through mouth; abdomen became greatly swollen, aspirated four times and twelve quarts ascitic fluid evacuated; February 17 operated upon, taking 40 minutes; operation described as Richardson's modification of Talma's operation; condition afterwards good; thirteenth day stitches removed; thirty-fifth day drainage tube removed; forty-fifth day left hospital; in two weeks as much effusion as ever, but later began to feel better, the gain being at first noticeable in less dyspnea; able now to do housework.

The report was discussed by Drs. Kerr, Tait and MacMonagle, the latter of whom had performed the operation.

T. W. Huntington, M. D., was on the program for "Lessons from a Fatal Case of Gastro-Enterostomy," but owing to the lateness of the hour its presentation was postponed.

STATE VETERINARY ASSOCIATION.

The California State Veterinary Medical Association held a special meeting last month in San Francisco, to discuss the affairs of the organization and transact its regular business. The meeting was one of the largest ever held by the Association. Dr. C. H. Blemer presided. A number of interesting papers were read on subjects pertaining to the treatment of diseases of the animal. One of the features of the meeting was the action taken by the Association regarding the illegal practice of veterinary surgery by men who have no regular State license. A law was passed at the last Legislature for the suppression of such practice and it is the intention of the Association to make war upon all persons who persist in the practice of veterinary surgery without a license.

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the effort to condense has not been permitted to go to the point of eliminating anything necessary for the proper understanding of the subject.

The friendly association of the best in the professions of medicine and pharmacy with large commercial interests, necessarily demands the most careful and cautious treatment that it may be beneficial to the public and to the manufacturer without detracting from the reputations of the professional men who engage upon the work by casting suspicion upon their motives or their integrity. At the same time, a large amount of work would necessarily fall upon the professional side of such an association, and the cost of performing the work would have to be defrayed in some manner. It has seemed no less than right that this cost should be met by those who are commercially interested in and profit from the manufacture of the products which would be considered by such an association. Furthermore, it is vitally necessary that such an association should possess the right to determine who may and may not be received in association, and what products of its associates may receive its attention, and the standards of identity, purity, quality or strength to which these products should comply. It must also be in a position to instruct the public and the professions upon matters connected with its work and upon subjects that are of sufficient interest to the professions or to the public.

To accomplish these ends and to secure the protection to the professional men who shall be chosen to undertake the work outlined, the following detailed plan has been suggested:

PLAN.

In order to have proper legal and business standing, the work should be done by a corporation. As it is not intended that profit shall be made from the undertaking, the corporation should be a membership and not a joint stock corporation. It is proposed to incorporate under the laws of the State of New York, a membership corporation to be known as the National Bureau of Medicines and Foods.

The membership of this bureau shall be of two or more classes. All members of the American Medical Association and the American Pharmaceutical Association should be scientific members of the bureau. The organization should be so effected as to fully protect the American Medical Association and the American Pharmaceutical Association, their agents and all their members, who become members of the proposed bureau, from all possibility of being involved in legal or other complications that might assail the proposed bureau. Those manufacturers whose goods it might be requested to vouch for, should be admitted to associate membership, but should have no voice in the control of the bureau.

The control of the bureau should be placed in the hands of a board of ten directors, five elected by each association, one from each association retiring annually, and his successor elected for five years. This board of directors, with the exception of its secretary, who should devote all his time to the work, should not receive salaries, but should receive mileage and per diem when called upon to attend meetings of the board or of its committees. The board should, in consultation with the manufacturer, fix standards of identity, purity, quality and strength, not in conflict with the United States Pharmacopeia, and the manufacturer, having agreed to these standards, should contract with the bureau to comply with them until altered by common consent and a vote of

the board; and to comply with all rules governing him in the manufacture of his product, such rules having been formulated in consultation between the board and the manufacturer, and accepted by both. An eight-tenths vote of the board should be required to accept or reject any application for associate membership, or to adopt any rule of the bureau, or to accept or reject any product presented by an associate manufacturer for proper control by the bureau. No manufacturer or person employed by any manufacturer of products that might come within the scope of the work of the proposed bureau, and no person engaged in their distribution or sale, should be eligible on the board of directors, unless approved by a three-fourths vote of the council of the American Pharmaceutical Association or a three-fourths vote of the House of Delegates of the American Medical Association, respectively.

By-laws should be carefully drawn and adopted by the board, and thereafter it should require an unanimous vote of the board to alter or amend them in any way. They should be very broad and general, covering only vital principles, and all details should be formulated in the shape of rules which could be altered or abolished as occasion required, only by an eight-tenths vote of the board.

The business side of the bureau should be considered with no less care than that devoted to the scientific side. While it would not be the purpose of the bureau to make money, it should be the aim of its administration to confine the cost to the lowest amount consistent with properly carrying on the work, for in any event this sum would be a large one. Modern business methods should be adopted and one general responsible head appointed by the board of directors. Under him should be such persons as may be required to carry on the work under the rules and regulations established by the board, and it should be their duty to see that proper and competent persons only were employed. The board of directors, as such, should not come into direct contact with the business side of the bureau, nor with the commercial interests involved. It should act in a supervisory capacity; it should say absolutely what rules, standards, etc., were to be followed, and it should see that a proper business department then carried out these rules.

It should be the purpose of the bureau to work in perfect harmony with the United States Government authorities and especially with the Department of Agriculture. In case of future legislation by the United States Government, some of the functions of this proposed bureau might be modified or transferred to the proper government department. The ever-present hope that such legislation will eventually be enacted should not, however, interfere with the careful consideration of the bureau plan, nor with its acceptance if it be found satisfactory. Unless spurred on by some such individual effort, many more years may elapse before the enactment of proper national legislation. Some features of the work of the bureau could hardly be assumed by the government; notably the dissemination of accurate and reliable information relative to manufacturers and their products, and especially to newly discovered remedial agents, etc., together with a proper ethical supervision of advertising matter connected with the introduction of such products.

Existing laboratories should be utilized so far as practicable in prosecuting the work of the bureau, in making its original investigations and in carrying on the work of check control, for two reasons: First, in order to incur no greater expense than absolutely necessary; second, in order to encourage scientific enterprise where now already organized.

The bureau should not issue blanket certificates. Each package of any product that is manufactured under the supervision of the bureau and which complies with its rules and standards, and for which compliance some individual expert is responsible, should, however, bear a label setting forth that fact for the benefit and guidance of the purchaser.

No nostrum, nor any medicinal product of which the full formula giving all the active ingredients and couched in the ordinary terms of chemistry and pharmacy has not been or is not freely published, should at any time be permitted to come within the supervision of the bureau.

DETAIL METHOD OF OPERATION.

Any manufacturer desirous of having one or more of his products placed under the supervision of, and certified by the bureau, would first apply to the secretary for associate membership, which application would carry with it a contract to abide by the rules of the bureau (Appendix A). The application would then be submitted to the board of directors, and on the written approval of a majority of them, such manufacturer would be accepted in associate membership.

An associate member desiring to have a given product certified by the bureau, would transmit to the secretary a proper application for that purpose, together with two samples of the product in question. One of these samples should be sealed and deposited in the custody of the secretary; the other should be transmitted to the scientific department of the bureau, together with instructions to fully investigate the article, and to compare it with at least two samples bought in open market without the knowledge of the manufacturer. When the scientific department has obtained all the information desired by the board of directors, it would transmit the same to the board, who would then consider it in connection with the application. If found satisfactory, the board, in conjunction with the manufacturer, would determine standard of identity, purity, quality and strength, to which this product should thereafter comply, and would formulate rules acceptable alike to the board and to the manufacturer, for the guidance of the chemists of the manufacturer on the one hand, and of the scientific department on the other (Appendix D).

These formalities having been complied with to the satisfaction of the board of directors, the manufacturer would then be authorized to print upon the label of each package of each batch of the product that had been approved by the expert or experts in charge, or to attach to each such package a separate paster, setting forth the fact that the contents of that unbroken original package had been certified by the bureau under certain rules; and the manufacturer might also print thereon the text of these rules. Each and every such label or paster should bear a number which would indicate, through records to be kept by the bureau, the date of the particular batch and the expert or experts responsible for having approved the standard thereof. At least two samples of each batch should be kept by the bureau for a period to be determined by the board.

At least three times each year two samples of each and every product bearing the certificate of the bureau would be purchased in open market, in different localities, and submitted to careful examination by the scientific department of the bureau, in order to determine whether the standard established was being maintained by the manufacturer. If the standard established was not being maintained, the certificate of the bureau should be withdrawn.

Unless all of the products of any manufacturer were certified by the bureau, such manufacturer should not be permitted to advertise that his products

were certified by the bureau, but in all advertisements of any certified products, he should state that such products were certified. If all his products were placed under the supervision of the bureau, he might so advertise.

An associate member who might desire to contract with the bureau to submit any and all advertising matter relative to one or more certified products to the censorship of the bureau, could do so. (Appendix C.) The bureau would then undertake to place the censored and approved information concerning such products before the physicians and pharmacists of the country in a dignified and strictly ethical and professional manner. These statements would and could with safety be relied upon by all the professional interests, for they would practically be the statements, not of the interested manufacturer, but of the disinterested board of professional men composing the board of directors of the bureau. Careful inquiry amongst a large number of physicians has revealed a unanimous desire to receive such accurate and reliable information from a wholly disinterested source. Statements issued by the bureau would receive attention where statements issued by the interested manufacturer would not be read at all, or even if read, would be regarded with a certain amount of natural distrust. It is not proposed that the bureau shall deliver official opinions as to the therapeutic value of any products; it would simply certify to their compliance with certain standards or to certain formulas. The statements which it could disseminate regarding such products would be confined to statements of fact regarding origin, composition, chemical and physiologic action, etc., and the opinions of qualified students and investigators which it might collect and diffuse for the benefit of all who might desire to investigate or make use of such products.

THE OPERATION AS APPLIED TO RETAIL PHARMACISTS.

It is proposed that the retail pharmacist shall associate with the bureau on a sound professional basis. In every way possible the bureau should endeavor to aid and improve the profession of pharmacy, and to make more cordial the relations between physicians and pharmacists. To this end the following general plan is submitted for discussion and careful consideration:

Any pharmacist who so desired could become an associate member of the bureau on application, contracting to obey and abide by the rules of the bureau. Rules governing him in the preparation of pharmaceuticals would be, as far as possible, similar to the rules governing the manufacturer, and a system consisting of careful and frequent inspection and analytic check control would be established, as in the case of the manufacturer, in order to protect the bureau certificate. Such associate pharmacists would agree to supply products certified by the bureau, when not otherwise called for, and the physicians would be advised of all associate pharmacists in their immediate vicinity. The bureau would also endeavor to have physicians call for products certified by the bureau, and whenever not absolutely necessary, refrain from specifying particular brands or makes, requiring only that the material used by the pharmacist should be of the standards established by the bureau and certified by it.

It is hardly necessary to call attention to the very wide differences in the commercial relations of manufacturers and pharmacists to the medical profession. Obviously the problems attendant upon these differences would have to be met by the bureau, by the formation of different classes of rules and by different forms of inspection. The detail work in connection with the undertaking as applied to the

pharmacist, would necessarily be very great, and for the sake of proper treatment of the pharmacist himself, it should not be undertaken until the bureau has been established on a conservative basis. It should, however, be undertaken at the earliest practicable time.

Appendix A.

APPLICATION FOR ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP.

.....[place and date]

A. B., the undersigned, engaged in the business or occupation of[manufacturing pharmaceuticals, pharmacy, etc.], hereby makes application for associate membership in the National Bureau of Medicines and Foods, and if duly elected under the by-laws of said National Bureau of Medicines and Foods to associate membership therein, will, and does by these presents formally enter into and agree to the following contract and agreement with the said National Bureau of Medicines and Foods, to wit, as follows:

(1) To abide and be governed by all the rules and regulations of the said National Bureau of Medicines and Foods now existing or which may be enacted with the following proviso and exception:

If at any time the said National Bureau of Medicines and Foods shall enact any rule or regulation to which the undersigned cannot subscribe or comply, the undersigned may voluntarily withdraw from such associate membership, and the said National Bureau of Medicines and Foods shall make public acknowledgement of the voluntary withdrawal of the undersigned.

(2) To submit without litigation to the decision of eight-tenths of the board of directors of the said National Bureau of Medicines and Foods to the construction to be placed upon any and all rules or regulations herewith accepted and subscribed to, and to the decision of eight-tenths of the said board of directors, if the violation of any of the said rules and regulations by the undersigned becomes at any time a matter at issue.

(3) To pay to the said National Bureau of Medicines and Foods the sum of five dollars per annum, payable in advance, on the second day of January of each year, to the treasurer of the said National Bureau of Medicines and Foods, and failure to make such payment, as provided in the by-laws of the said National Bureau of Medicines and Foods, shall terminate the associate membership of the undersigned.

[Signed].....

[To be acknowledged before a notary.]

On vote of the board of directors.....
was duly elected to associate membership on.....
.....[date]. [Signed].....
secretary.

[Seal of the Bureau.]

Appendix B.

APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION.

.....[place and date]

A. B., hereafter referred to as the party of the first part, herewith makes application to the National Bureau of Medicines and Foods, hereafter referred to as the party of the second part, to have the standard of identity, purity, quality and strength of..... (product or products to be specified) manufactured by the party of the first part, certified by the party of the second part, and for that purpose enters into, makes and acknowledges the following contract:

(1) The party of the first part agrees to comply strictly with all the rules or regulations now or hereafter enacted by the party of the second part govern-

ing the standards of identity, purity, quality and strength of the.....manufactured by the party of the first part, and all other rules or regulations at any time enacted by the party of the second part.

(2) The party of the first part agrees to accept, without litigation, the ruling by eight-tenths of the board of directors of the party of the second part, upon any question of failure, refusal or neglect to comply with the standards of identity, purity, quality or strength, or failure, refusal, or neglect to comply with any of the said rules or regulations.

(3) This contract shall not take effect until any and all experts in the employ of the party of the first part, and who are in charge of and responsible for, the manufacture ofmanufactured by the party of the first part, shall be associate members of the party of the second part, and shall have entered into a contract with the party of the second part to strictly comply with all rules or regulations of the party of the second part, and to certify only to such batches of the.....manufactured by the party of the first part, as do actually and truthfully comply with the standards of identity, purity, quality and strength established by the party of the second part, hereby agreed to by the party of the first part.

(4) (To apply to such products as cannot be assayed or analyzed.) The party of the second part shall have the right to have its duly qualified and authorized inspector inspect the material employed and the process of manufacture of..... by the party of the first part, at any or all reasonable time or times, and either with or without due notice to the party of the first part.

(5) Not oftener than four times a year the board of directors of the party of the second part shall determine the percentage of ratio which the cost of conducting the work of the party of the second part bears to the value of all the products certified by it for a given time, and the party of the first part agrees to pay to the party of the second part a sum equal to this percentage of the total value of..... which has been certified for the party of the first part by the party of the second part, during the time specified. The party of the second part agrees that this percentage assessment shall not exceed [percentage to be determined] of the value of.....certified during that time. The value of the products on which this assessment shall be based shall be considered as and estimated from the list price demanded by the party of the first part for

[Signed].....

[Signatures of two witnesses. Acknowledged before a notary.]

Accepted, National Bureau of Medicines and Foods.
....., President.

....., Secretary.

Note. There will doubtless have to be a number of special contracts covering special cases; this is suggested as a tentative form for the majority of products.

Appendix C.

CONTRACT COVERING ADVERTISING CENSORSHIP.

.....[date and place].

A. B., the undersigned, an associate member of the National Bureau of Medicines and Foods and manufacturer of....., a product manufactured under the supervision and certificate of the said National Bureau of Medicines and Foods, hereby agrees and contracts to submit any and all advertising matter, or general, or public statements relative

to the said product, to the censorship of the board of directors of the said National Bureau of Medicines and Foods, and further agrees and contracts not to make, nor permit, nor cause to be made, any advertisement, or general, or public statement in regard to the said product, that has not been submitted to the said board of directors and approved by a majority thereof. In consideration for the agreement and contract hereby made by the undersigned, the National Bureau of Medicines and Foods agrees to make, or to authorize to be made and issued, under its name or with its full approval and sanction, any and all such advertising or general or public statements, relative to the said product, as shall have been submitted to its censorship and have met its approval.

[Signed].....

Appendix D.

SUGGESTED RULES.

Rule A. The standards of identity, purity, quality and strength of the official raw materials used in the manufacture, and of the official finished manufactured product, for all substances or products recognized by, and manufactured under this rule, shall be those of the United States Pharmacopeia, as indicated in the last published edition of that work.

Rule B. No manufacturer shall advertise or make any general or public statement to the effect that his products are certified by the National Bureau of Medicines and Foods or are placed under the supervision of the National Bureau of Medicines and Foods unless all of the said manufacturer's products have been accepted by the said National Bureau of Medicines and Foods for such supervision and control.

Rule C. In all advertisements, or general or public statements, made by a manufacturer concerning any product manufactured by him under the supervision of the National Bureau of Medicines and Foods and certified by it, the statement shall be made that such product is certified by the National Bureau of Medicines and Foods.

Rule D. The president and general manager, acting conjointly, may at any time notify any associate member to immediately discontinue the use of the certificate of the National Bureau of Medicines and Foods, upon sufficient evidence of departure from the standards of identity, purity, quality or strength of any product manufactured by such associate member, or for failure, refusal or neglect of such associate member to comply with or obey any rule or regulation of the National Bureau of Medicines and Foods. Such associate member may, however, appeal to the board of directors of the National Bureau of Medicines and Foods for decision in the matter or matters at issue, and the decision of eight-tenths of the said board shall be final.

Rule E. Each and every package of every product certified by the National Bureau of Medicines and Foods shall bear the following certificate, which may be printed upon the label customarily used, or be placed thereon in the form of a separate paster, at the pleasure of the manufacturer, together with the device of the bureau:

"The contents of this original unbroken package are certified to comply with the rules and standards of the National Bureau of Medicines and Foods."

The manufacturer may also, if he so elects, print upon such label or paster, the text of the special rules governing the standard of his product so certified.

Each such label or paster shall also bear the device of the bureau.

Rule F. Each and every label or paster fixed to every package of a certified product (except in such

cases as may be covered by a special rule), shall have printed thereon a number which will be so determined as to indicate, through the records of the manufacturer and of the bureau, the particular batch, the date of its manufacture, and the name or names of the expert or experts who is or are responsible for certifying to the standards of identity, purity, quality or strength of that particular batch.

MEMBERS OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE.

A. M. A. Committee—E. Eliot Harris, New York; N. S. Davis, Jr., Chicago; Solomon Solis Cohen, Philadelphia; H. Bert. Ellis, Los Angeles; Philip Mills Jones, San Francisco.

A. Ph. A. Committee—H. H. Rusby, New York; Jas. M. Good, St. Louis; C. S. N. Hallberg, Chicago; A. B. Lyons, Detroit; S. A. D. Sheppard, Boston. Chairman joint committee, H. H. Rusby, M. D.; Secretary, Philip Mills Jones, M. D.

Mother Mary Once More—The leader of the sheep, and the founder of the eddyite book concern, for revenue only, has at last disclosed a vulnerable point. She has taken umbrage at a published comment to the effect that her education was strictly limited (if the liability of her followers is not), and has published a beautiful document which begins "To whom it may concern." We certainly know of no one whom it more nearly concerns than the sacrilegious "Mother Mary," so probably it was a monologic document intended for self-consideration. She fairly shrieks out the assertion that she has had a remarkable education and was assisted in the production of that wonderful work, "Science and Health," for which all eddyites are agents, by inspiration. The evidence of the book itself is forgotten; the conclusive evidence of its preparation with an utter disregard for dictionary or grammar and on rhetorical lines that are truly unique, is of minor importance when considered against the assertion of "Mother Mary."

Medicine Compared with Mathematics—Medicine in its broadest sense of including physic, obstetrics and surgery, may be somewhat aptly compared with mathematics. The former comes to its ordinary diseases, its parturient problems, its accidents and injuries with well recognized and efficient remedies and treatment; the latter meets its ordinary problems of surveying farms, lots and claims, of laying

out roads, of building habitations, bridges and trestles, with all readiness and skill. But when, in the case of the former, it comes to discerning the origin and compassing the subjugation of tuberculous tendencies, or of successfully arresting the onward march of malignant growths toward the citadels of vitality, it finds itself in much the same predicament as does mathematics with problems of Panama canal or aerial navigation to solve.—Dr. Hammond, *Annals of Gynecology and Pediatrics*.

Climatic Treatment—Increasing experience is impressing upon us more and more the fact that patients suffering from severe diseases not only require careful treatment so far as drugs are concerned, but also need surroundings which are qualified to improve their general health, to increase their vital resistance, and thereby enable them to combat the maladies from which they are suffering. Indeed, it may be well said that drugs, in many instances, are solely of value for the purpose of putting aside symptoms which are annoying, and that the question of speedy recovery must chiefly depend upon the vital powers of the patient. It is becoming a matter of daily experience that pulmonary tuberculosis can rarely be cured by medicinal agents, whereas, in a great number of instances, in its early stages, it can be rapidly overcome by resorting to a proper climate.—*Therapeutic Gazette*.

Association of Railway Surgeons—At the annual meeting of the State Medical Society at Santa Barbara an Association of Railway Surgeons of the Pacific Coast was organized. Dr. Coffey, of the Southern Pacific, was chosen president and Dr. Morrison, of the Santa Fe, vice-president. The next meeting will be held in San Francisco in August.

Dr. A. H. Glennon, of the Marine Hospital Service, has been ordered to Washington to become second in command under Surgeon-General Wyman. He will have charge of the domestic stations of the United States. Dr. Blue remains in San Francisco in charge of the U. S. Bacteriological Laboratory and the work connected with the suppression of contagious diseases.

Dr. Carl Groves Wilson, recently interne at the City and County Hospital, was married on June 17 to Clara Louise Ede.

CALIFORNIA COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETIES.

NAME	PRESIDENT	SECRETARY	MEETS
Alameda County Med. Association	E. J. Overend, Oakland	A. H. Pratt, Oakland	
Contra Costa Medical Society	J. S. Riley, Port Costa	J. S. Riley, Port Costa	
Fresno County Medical Society	Wilson Fowler, Fresno	Angus B. Cowan, Fresno	First Tuesday
Humboldt County Med. Society	R. Felt, Eureka	G. N. Drysdale, Eureka	Second Tuesday
Kern County Medical Society	T. W. Helm, Bakersfield	Wm. S. Fowler, Bakersfield	
Lake County Medical Society	J. S. Downs, Lakeport	H. O. Brink, Lakeport	
Los Angeles County Med. Society	Rose Talbott Bullard, Los Angeles	C. G. Stivers, Los Angeles	First and third Friday
Marin County Medical Society	A. H. Mays, Sausalito	W. F. Jones, San Rafael	First Saturday
Orange County Medical Assn.	Wm. Freeman, Fullerton	H. S. Gordon, Santa Ana	Second Tuesday
Placer County Medical Society	Louise H. Clark, Riverside	R. F. Rooney, Auburn	
Riverside County Medical Society	Thos. Ross, Sacramento	W. W. Robles, Riverside	Third Tuesday
Sacramento Society for Med. Imp.	W. Thompson, San Bernardino	J. W. James, Sacramento	Third Tuesday
Medical Assn. of San Bernardino	R. L. Doig, San Diego	J. H. Meyer, San Bernardino	
San Diego County Medical Society	Louis A. Kengla, San Francisco	T. L. Magee, San Diego	
San Francisco County Med. Society	S. E. Latta, Stockton	Wm. F. Barbat, San Francisco	Second Tuesday
San Joaquin County Med. Society	Chas. Anderson, Santa Barbara	W. S. Snedigar, Stockton	Last Friday
Santa Barbara County Med. Assn.	W. T. McNary, San Jose	W. B. Cunneane, Santa Barbara	
Santa Clara County Med. Society	A. L. Wilson, Tulare	J. Lambert Asay, San Jose	Third Wednesday
Tri-County Medical Society	John H. Love, Ventura	S. T. Pope, Watsonville	
Tulare County Medical Society	T. P. Peery, Yuba City	T. J. Patterson, Visalia	
Ventura County Medical Society		C. L. Bard, Ventura	
Med. Soc. of Yuba and Sutter Cos.		E. W. Hanlon, Marysville	Quarterly

Secretaries of County Societies are requested to notify the JOURNAL of any changes in above directory.